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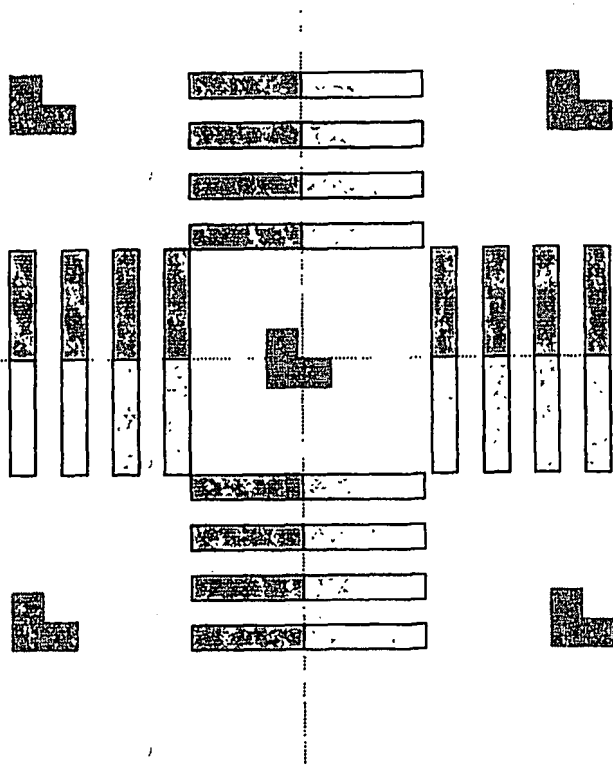
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **AOTI OPERATING COMPANY, INC** [US/US]; 131 NW Hawthorne Avenue, Suite 207, Bend, OR 97701 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **SMITH, Nigel, Peter** [GB/—]; Accent Optical Technologies, Haxby Road, York YO31 8SD (GB). **HAMMOND, Michael, John** [GB/GB]; Accent Optical Technologies, Haxby Road, York YO31 8SD (GB).
- (74) Agent: **NOVAGRAAF PATENTS LIMITED**; The Crescent, 54 Blossom Street, York YO24 1AP (GB).
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(54) Title: **OVERLAY METROLOGY MARK**



(57) Abstract: An overlay metrology mark for determining the relative position between two or more layers of an integrated circuit structure comprising a first mark portion associated with and in particular developed on a first layer and a second mark portion associated with and in particular developed on a second layer, wherein the first and second mark portions together constitute, when the mark is properly aligned, at least one pair of test zones, each test zone comprising a first mark section formed as part of the first mark portion and a second mark section formed as part of the second mark portion each comprising a plurality of elongate rectangular mark structures in parallel array adjacently disposed to form the said test zone such that the mark structures in each test zone are in alignment in a first direction within the test zone but are substantially at 90° with respect to the mark structures of at least one other test zone in alignment in a second direction, and wherein the test zones making up the or each pair are laterally displaced relative to each other along one of the said directions. A method of marking and a method of determining overlay error are also described.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H01L23/544

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H01L 603F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, IBM-TDB

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

 European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3018

Authorized officer

Corchia, A

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X	page 11, lines 32,33	4
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X	page 16, line 14 - page 17, line 6	14
X	page 18, lines 1-26	12-14,19
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X	page 30, line 32 - page 31, line 5; figure 8	
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